BULLETIN OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWISH CHARITIES

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Issued Monthly

THE MONTH IN SHORT

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JEWISH SOCIAL WORKERS' EXCHANGE

Conducted by the Field Bureau of the National Conference of Jewish Charities Field Bureau, 809-10 Neave Building, Cincinnati, O.

Provides positions for Jewish Social Workers and assists organizations in procuring qualified candidates for existing vacancies.

WORKERS WANTED

ORGANIZATIONS:

When requiring workers, use the Exchange. You will be provided, *Free of Charge*, with a list of available candidates and a full description of their qualifications.

- WANTED—Swimming instructor for men's department, preferably beyond draft age. Write particulars, covering age, education, experience, and minimum salary. Philip L. Seman, 1258 W. Taylor St., Chicago, III.
- HEADWORKER—Young woman for resident settlement in the Middle West. Address C. F., Jewish Charities.
- MATRON WANTED—New Orleans Jewish Orphans' Home desires to employ matron to supervise moral, physical and educational welfare of Girls' Department. Trained social worker preferred. Applicants should state age, experience and salary expected, and give full references. Send communications to J. K. Newman, Chairman, 212 Carondelet St., New Orleans, La.
- SUPERINTENDENT WANTED—For Y. M. H. A., in large Eastern city. Address L. P., Jewish Charities.

WANTED—Information of the whereabouts of Mrs. Mendel Alper, last known address, 403 N. Bond St., Baltimore, Md. Address Joint Distribution Committee, 20 Exchange Place, New York City.

POSITIONS WANTED

DO YOU WANT A POSITION? If so, register at once with the Exchange. Send for particulars and application form.

- SUPERINTENDENT—Man with years of experience as principal in modern Hebrew schools; good executive, a fluent speaker in English and Yiddish. Desires to obtain a position as superintendent of a small orphanage or home for the aged. Wife to act as matron. Address L. A. M., Jewish Charities.
- STEWARD AND MATRON—Couple desire position in any charitable institution. Twelve years experience with modern institutions; superior reference. Write S. W. L., care Dr. P. I. Amsher, 320 S. Fifth St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
- KINDERGARTNER—Desires position as supervisor of day nursery in a settlement. Address R. F., Jewish Charities.
- SOCIAL WORKER—Experienced in educational, relief and delinquency work, 37 years old, doctor of medicine and lecturer, wants a position in the North or West, to suit his abilities. References will be sent to any Board looking for such a worker. Address P M. L.. Jewish Charities.
- EXECUTIVE—Young man, university and philanthropy school graduate, experienced in relief, research and Americanization work, seeks position as head of a philanthropic organization. Well qualified and highly recommended. Ready May 15. Address N. Y. S., Jewish Charities.



TENTH BIENNIAL MEETING, NATIONAL CONFERENCE JEWISH CHARLTIES

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, MAY, 1918

FELIX WARBURG struck the keynote of the Conference when he declared his appreciation of the professional aspect of Jewish Social Service. His plea for a higher standard and more adequate compensation, combined with an endowment insurance plan, marks a new era in Jewish philanthropy.

The great body of Jewish Social Workers have scored a victory in securing this recognition for which they have long struggled.

Now that the purpose of the National Association of Social Workers has been achieved, it has unanimously agreed to merge its organization with the National Conference of Jewish Charities. The Jewish Social Workers have thus set a praiseworthy example of an organization which goes out of existence when its purpose has been achieved, a principle which cannot be too strongly emphasized in the field of Jewish Social Service.

DR. LEE K. FRANKEL touched a responsive chord in the hearts of his hearers at the Conference when he declared that the one big problem that is facing us all as social workers and as citizens is the problem of winning this war. The part the Jewish Social Workers must take in this task is an all-absorbing one. The speaker enumerated particularly several national ventures which the social workers must study and for which they must plan. The Children's Year Campaign, to save 150,000 babies' lives during the coming year, needs the whole-hearted co-operation of the Jewish Social Worker.

The Red Cross Civilian Relief Work is another task within the scope of Jewish Social Service.

The work for the carrying out of the Soldiers' Insurance and Allotment System is part of the social worker's "bit."

LEAGUE OF NATIONS to preserve peace is not a Utopian dream, contradicted by the very nature of man. It is a possible reality, and the proof of its possibility lies in the history of the United States, which, as an experimental laboratory for civilization, has demonstrated that such a thing is possible. By substituting for national rivalries, jealousies and competition a system of close co-operation, free trade, and an international army, the builders of our democracy made out of many separated, competing, ambitious states a unfied league of nations as early as the eighteenth century. This, according to Professor Kallen, is the ground upon which we can reasonably plan for a league of nations after the great war. The big task of the social worker is two-fold; in the first place, he must do all in his power to help win the war; secondly, he must help to strengthen and determine definitely the real meaning of the purpose of the war—to make the world safe for democracy. Three important facts can guide and inspire him in his task. The Russian revolution marked an epoch in the advance of civilization toward world-wide democracy and the total decay of monarchies. The platform of the British labor party definitely establishes the principle that labor is not a commodity, but an attribute of man, and not to be regulated by the law of supply and demand in the industrial market. Significant in this connection is the parallelism between industrialism and militarism and the fact that both are divergences away from real human development in the individual, instead of manifestations of this development. The third big happening is the statement of Balfour, favoring the re-establishment of the Jewish home in Zion; significant as the interpretation of a new recognition of the natural right of peoples to express themselves, an indispensable corollary of democracy.

The nation at present is democratic by executive enactment; it is the task of the social worker to help make it democratic by the ideals of its citizenship; interpreting the things for which we are fighting into terms of humanity and democracy. This the social worker will never be in a position to do adequately, until he is allowed the same academic freedom as the teaching profession is now demanding, and that will only come when he is independent of the opinions of those who now guide the policies of social service endeavors.

The bigness of view and the intensity of thought contained in Prof. Kallen's address cannot be expressed in any summary; suffice it to say, that it was a tremendous contribution to the thought of the Conference, and one that will remain with us.

THE GIST OF IT

THE OPENING MEETING.

The hearty welcome that Kansas City has accorded the Conference was emphasized at the opening meeting last night. when Rabbi Mayer, Jacob L. Lorie, H. M. Beardsley, representing the non-Tewish population of the city, and Mr. Alfred Benjamin voiced eloquently their appreciation and interest in the fact that the Conference is meeting in this city. Dr. Frankel, representing the Executive Committee, assured our hosts that the welcome is indeed appreciated. Compliments having been thus exchanged, Mr. Aaron Cohen, retiring President of the Conference; gave his presidential message, reporting on the work done during the past two years. He emphasized the desirability of changing the name of the Conference, thus following the lead of the parent organization, the National Conference of Social Work.

Mr. Felix Warburg brought to the Conference a spirit of kindly sympathy and understanding that has sounded the keynote for the entire session. The gigantic task of "federating New York," the problem of relief for the Jews in the warstricken lands, the work done by Jews all over the country as their bit in the war, all these achievements Felix Warburg presented as a call for still greater service and an encouragement for still greater endeavor. The necessity for greater inducements to enter social service in view of the depletion in the ranks because of the war was urged as a reason for the establishment and utilization of training schools and a moving cause in the establishment of an insurance system for social workers.

THE NATIONAL JEWISH COMMIT-TEE ON TUBERCULOSIS.

The National Jewish Committee on Tuberculosis, organized last year for the purpose of co-ordinating the work of sanatoria and hospitals for tuberculous patients, held its second meeting on May 11th and 12th, with representatives present from the National Jewish Hospital, the Jewish Con-

sumptive Relief Society and the Central Jewish Aid Society of Denver. The committee decided to constitute itself a permanent body with Dr. Lee K. Frankel as chairman. The plan for standardized rules of admission as submitted by Mr. Sidney Pritz, Chairman of the Standardization Committee, were accepted. Mr. Maurice B. Hexter presented a summary of conclusions drawn from a study of the records of the Central Registration Bureau for tuberculous patients in Denver. A constitution for the committee was adopted. The officers for the coming year are: Chairman, Dr. Lee K. Frankel; Vice-Chairman, Henry M. Moskowitz; Secretary-Treasurer, Boris D. Bogen.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH SOCIAL WORKERS.

The question as to whether the National Association of Jewish Social Workers should merge with the National Conference of Jewish Charities was one of the interesting features of a very live meeting of the National Association on Sunday afternoon. The consensus of opinion indicated that this should be done, providing that the conference meet annually hereafter.

Mr. I. E. Goldwasser, Miss Blanche Hart and Mr. Maurice Hexter were appointed a committee to present the subject to the National Conference. The report was received favorably by the Conference and the National Association of Jewish Social Workers merged with the parent organization.

CHILD CARING.

"Remove the condition, not the child." This was the keynote of the address on "The Dependent Child," with which Miss Ruth Berolzheimer opened the session on Child Care on Monday morning. There are difficulties, she admits, in the task of placing out successfully families of permanently dependent children; in this case, institutional care may be necessary; it is certainly the court of last resort in every other case.

Mr. Armand Wyle, speaking on "The Small Child-Caring Institution and Training of All Classes of Dependent Children," agreed as to the desirability of family environment for the dependent child, but where this cannot be secured, the small child-caring institution is most desirable. Certainly the charming organization of the community life in the Rochester institution, which he describes, is a far cry from the dull, grinding routine, which, he reminded us, was the acme of institutional excellence not so many years ago.

PACIFIC COAST PROBLEMS.

The far-famed climate of California does away with the coal and ice problem in that favored territory. The big problem there is the problem of the transient. But the western country is not unmindful of its duties; great sums are raised for all social service endeavors, Jewish as well as non-sectarian. These were the high-spots of the address of Mr. Henry L. Mayer, of San Francisco, at the Monday session. Another interesting feature was the description of a non-sectarian employment agency, successfully conducted by the Jewish organization.

IMMIGRANT PROBLEMS.

A renewed sympathy and understanding of the problems of the American-Jewish immigrant resulted from the impressive and thoughtful presentation of this subject by Isidore Herschfield, of New York.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The great war is increasing the problem of tuberculosis, and unless Jewish Social Workers bend their energies to combat this increase, a great deal of the work accomplished in the eradication of the White Plague for the past twenty years will have been lost. This was the warning made by Dr. Max Biesenthal, who read the first paper at the session on Tuberculosis. The problem is primarily a medical one, secondarily a sociological one, and, as such, should hold the careful consideration of the medical profession. Mr. Hexter read the report of his study of the Central Registration of Tuberculosis Cases, a report that aroused considerable discussion, casting a new light upon this perennial subject.

THE SOCIAL VALUE OF JEWISH MOVEMENTS.

1-THE TEMPLE SISTERHOOD.

The time is past when the Jewish woman must turn to social affairs and cards to express her striving for effectiveness in the community. She has returned to the temple, where, years ago, the women of Israel worked side by side with the men in religious endeavor. This is the function of the Temple Sisterhood as described by Mrs. Harry H. Mayer, and this function, she declares, the Sisterhood is successfully accomplishing. This re-establishes the temple as the focus of the social forces in the community, revivifying it, and inspiring anew the community itself.

2-NATIONALISM.

Zionism-the one Jewish movement that has welded all classes together in a fraternity as broad as Israel itself-is the social value of this particular Jewish movement claimed for it by Mr. Oscar Leonard, who pleaded for a recognition of this fact and its further utilization in social endeavor. The recognition of the soundness of the Zionist program by the British program, and the practical concurrence of the United States as well as other allied countries, leaves no valid reason for a postponement of the problem. Mr. Levin, continuing this discussion at the luncheon, emphasized the fact that Zionism and patriotism to the United States are not only not paradoxical, but harmonious, declaring that at a Zionist meeting in Baltimore a great sum was raised for patriotic purposes. Rabbi Louis Bernstein is willing to admit the social value of Zionism as long as this admission does not stamp him as a rabid Zionist.

3-THE COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN.

The Council of Jewish Women has become of tremendous social value by very virtue of its accomplishments in social service, as well as the awakening and the motivating of American Jewish women through its activities. This was the idea presented by Mrs. Ernestine Dreyfus, who described the history and work of this national organization, which brings into one movement women from every group of American Jewry, forgetting prejudices and antipathies, to work in a common field.

THE UNITED JEWISH CHARITIES OF KANSAS CITY



Jewish Educational Institute.

THE United Jewish Charities is the Federation of Jewish Charities in Kansas City. It was organized in 1900, Mr. Wm. I. Berkowitz, President. Mr. Alfred Benjamin is the President at this time. having served continuously since 1905. The philanthropic agencies before federation were: the Jewish Charity Association; the Jewish Woman's Charity Association; the Council of Jewish Women; the Sophie Newgass Sewing Circle and the Bertha E. Haas Shoe Fund. These together created the United Jewish Charities. The Societies continued to operate from 1900 to 1911 and each collected its own dues and turned them over to the United Jewish Charities, either wholly or in part. The work, however, was co-ordinated and a house rented in which Educational and Recreational work might be pursued. and offices established from which relief might be dispensed. The first house was on East Fifteenth street; then a larger house with some ground was rented which was in a district in which lived the people whom it was aimed to serve, and in 1909 the Jewish Educational Institute was built, which, with the exception of the Y. M. H. A.

is the only Jewish Institutional building maintained in Kansas City. In this building is carried on all Relief work and in addition classes, clubs and recreational activities for all ages, from the smallest child to the adults.

One by one the Societies which made up the United Jewish Charities ceased to exist, with the exception of the Council of Jewish Women. In 1911 the method of paying dues into the several organizations was changed to a lump sum to the United Jewish Charities, which subscription would take care of all obligations for Philanthropic purposes in Kansas City and to outside Institutions. The number of subscribers and bulk amount subscribed was increased from a meager 210, contributing about \$10,000; to 500 or more contributing \$28,000.

Medical, Clinic: One of the most important activities of the Institute now is the Medical Clinic. This is under the personal supervision of the ablest physicians in Kansas City and serves on an average of thirty patients daily. The work is



The Children's Clinic.

divided into departments under the direction of the physicans indicated. For one year from the time the Clinic was established, which was December 1916; the number of cases in each department were as follows:

Eye Department, which includes Drs. Lichtenberg and Ringel; 2736 cases.

Department of Children, which is under Dr. Jacobs; 983 cases.

Surgery and Skin Department, which includes Drs. Rosenwald, Jerowitz and Newhouse; 846 cases.

Ear, Nose and Throat Department, which includes Drs. Lorie and Lux; 828 cases; more than half operated upon.

Internal Medicine and Tuberculosis Department, under Drs. Sophian, Ginsburg and Classen; 661 cases.

Department of Gynecology, under Drs. Sulzbacher and Goodman; 409 cases.

Orthopedic Department, under Dr. Belove; 136 cases.

G. U. Department, under Drs. Frischer and Hibbard; 180 cases.

Department of Neurology, under Dr. G. W. Robinson; 80 cases.

Total treatments given, 9,927; representing 1,490 patients.

Dental, Clinic: The Dental Clinis is separate from the Medical Clinic. It is open from 8 to 10 A. M. every day except Friday; on Saturday from 8 to 12. Thursday evening it is open from 7 P. M. to 9 P. M. for adults only. It has taken care of a monthly average of 238 patients.

NIGHT SCHOOL: A Night School has been in operation for a number of years. The Night Schools under the Board of Education in the Public Schools in this city owe their

existence to the Night School at the Institute. When immigration was normal more than one hundred pupils were enrolled. These were mostly beginners. At this time, however, with immigration at such a low ebb, school attendance has decreased and the past year there were about fifty pupils enrolled.

HEBREW SCHOOL: Classes are held daily from 3:30 to 7 o'clock. This is one Hebrew School of four or five in the immediate neighborhood. The Institute is making an effort to federate all these schools.

SABBATH SCHOOL: The Sabbath School meets every Saturday afternoon from 2 to 3:30, and has an enrollment of two hundred children. This school is under the auspices of the Temple and the expense incident to its maintenance is met by the congregation. Eighteen girls have been confirmed who have formed a Sabbath School Alumnae. They meet every second Sunday at the Institute and knit for the soldiers.

Library: A branch of the Public Library circulates about 1,400 books a month. During the year from January, 1917, to January, 1918, 16,-252 books were loaned, of which 13,858 were English and 2,394 foreign.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE: Classes are held in the homes of the children and are directed by a trained dietitian.

Dancing: Saturday night dances are held for adults and classes in dancing for children twice a week in the afternoon, with an average attendance of forty children.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL: The Council of Jewish Women Industrial School meets every Sunday morning from 10 to 12, with an average of one hundred and sixty-five children. This work has grown from an average of fifty, five years ago, to the number now reported.

RECREATION: Play ground and gymnasium are crowded from 4 until 6:30 daily. When the weather is fair there are at least one hundred and fifty children on the grounds under proper supervision.

AUDITORIUM: The auditorium is used by a great many organizations who bring speakers from the East, among them well-known dramatists and lecturers.

The various committees reported under the Council of Jewish Women work in close co-operation with the Institute, and a very earnest effort is made to make all departments efficient and permit all activities to be carried on with the least possible duplication and with the greatest amount of accomplishment. The Institute has achieved a place of importance not only in the Jewish life of the city, but in the larger civic life as well, and its prominent position is directly due to the character and personality of the men and women who have been associated with it and who have directed its activities. Of these, the President. Mr. Benjamin; Mr. Jacob Billikopf. the Superintendent, and the now Acting Superintendent, Mrs. Henry Cohen, must be especially mentioned.

The officers are: Mr. Alfred Benjamin, President; Mr. Al Rothenberg, First Vice-President; Mr. Julius Davidson, Second Vice-President; Mrs. H. H. Mayer, Third Vice-President; Mr. M. Oppenstein, Treasurer, and Mrs. Ernestine B. Dreyfus, Secretary.



The Industrial School

EXCERPTS FROM REPORTS

10

The seventeenth annual report of the Industrial Removal Office reviews the changes in industrial and economic conditions which have prevailed since the war began, due to the constant draft of men of military age for the service of our country. Besides affecting the persons so drafted, it has also withdrawn a large number of persons from the range of activities of the Office, for the parents, brothers and sisters of the young men who have gone to the front, have been reluctant, at this time, to entertain a change of environment, even though from an economic point of view, such change could only benefit them.

Nothwithstanding this limitation of their work, 1,006 persons were sent away from New York during 1917 and distributed in over 116 cities, among them a number never before reached by the Industrial Removal Office. Thus the Office has succeeded in keeping the machinery of its organization practically intact, a highly important precaution against the probability of a larger Jewish immigration after the war.

One of the most useful spheres of activity of the Removal Office is the Bureau of Information and Advice.

The annual report of the Federation of lewish Charities of Cleveland for the year 1917 shows an expenditure for relief of \$40,181.70 during the past year, as against \$36,832.30 expended during 1916. A total of 715 cases were dealt with during the year, representing 3,200 individuals. The funds were expended as follows:

General sickness30%
Tuberculosis21 %
Desertion10%
Old age and debility 9%
Widows with dependent
children14%
Insufficient earnings10%
Miscellaneous 6%

The first year of the existence of Mount Sinai Hospital has demonstrated its need

in the community. The Out-Patient Department, particularly, has been of great influence. Through the co-operation of the Council of Jewish Women a definite course of lectures has been given to prospective mothers. Another innovation was the establishment of a night clinic for the treatment of social diseases.

The Council Educational Alliance, in addition to its many activities, is also taking part in war work and endeavoring to maintain educational and industrial standards. Attention is called to the rapid shift of population, which is drawing the Jewish population away from the neighborhood of the Alliance, and a new location is urged for its activities.

In the last annual report of the Pacific Hebrew Orphan Asylum and Home Society, the superintendent says that "the whole trend of our work has been toward a recognition of the fact that the institutional care of children is but a phase of the larger problem of child-caring, which is only a part, although a most important one, of the whole social problem. The greatest danger comes to those children whom we are compelled to return to ethically or socially incompetent or ineffective relatives." Recognizing the necessity for adequate after-care work, there has been inaugurated a "Children's Welfare Bureau," which will consolidate all the child-helping work of the Jewish community of San Francisco.

In order to secure the best plans for the construction of a new home for the asylum, a careful and detailed study is being made of the construction, methods and administrative methods of similar institutions in other cities.

To meet the increased cost of maintenance, it was suggested that for purposes of economy, as well as conservation of food suplies, skilful substitutions could be used. This was made the subject of a conference for child-caring institutions. It became evident that the only measure of economy which would not endanger the children seemed to be common purchases of staple supplies, though an attempt to accomplish this failed utterly.

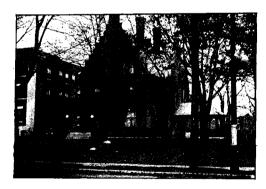
YOUNG MEN'S HEBREW ASSOCIATION KANSAS CITY. MO.

JEWISH CHARITIES

THE YOUNG MEN'S HEBREW ASSOCIATION was organized in the fall of 1913, with about fifty members. It was inspired by the desire of Mr. Jacob Billikopf to create an organization which would co-ordinate the efforts of and harmonize the various elements and organizations of Kansas City Jewry. Several Young Men's Hebrew Associations had been organized prior to this time, but all, for one reason or another, had failed. The meetings of the present organization were held for some time in the Jewish Educational Building. The constitution and by-laws were adopted on March 10, 1915, and soon thereafter the association became affiliated with the National Council of Young Men's Hebrew and Kindred Associations.

The official organ of the association, the "News Letter," was first issued in November, 1914, and has grown from an eight-page to a thirty-page publication, and is self-supporting.

A membership campaign was held in June, 1916, at which time one hundred



new members were added to the association, making a total membership at that time of three hundred and fifty.

During the week beginning June 9, 1916, a campaign was begun for funds with which to erect a building for the association, and one hundred thousand dollars was subscribed. A site for the building was purchased at a cost of thirty thousand dollars on March 29, 1917. America's entry into the war precluding the possibility of erecting a modern building thereon, the residence on the site was furnished and has since been utilized as a temporary home. This building is known as No. 3123 Troost Avenue, and the site has 100 feet frontage on each of two streets, Troost Avenue and Forest Avenue, and has a total depth of 305 feet.

Although a large number of the members are in the military service of the United States, the membership of the association has increased to five hundred during the past year.

In February, 1917, the association secured the services of Herman Passamaneck, who up to that time had been associated with the Louisville Y. M. H. A. He was elected to the position of Executive Secretary of the association. The employment of a paid secretary to devote his entire time to the affairs of the association has been amply justified.

The present facilities are entirely inadequate for the various activities of the association, which have grown very materially during the past year. Social, educational and religious activities are being emphasized in proper proportion, with the result that there is an active demand for each of these activities.

The association is doing active work in co-operation with the Jewish Welfare Board at Camp Funston, and the association building is used extensively by Jewish soldiers stopping at or passing through Kansas City.

The officers of the association are: Jacob L. Lorie, President; Alvin E. Block, First Vice-President; Moe L. Friedman, Second Vice-President; George L. Goldman, Treasurer; Herman Passamaneck, Executive Secretary.

The Directors of the association are: Jacob L. Lorie, Alfred Benjamin, William Fishman, Alex Saper, Benjamin Achtenberg, E. Bert Berkowitz, Simon S. Frolich, Myron A. Loewen, Benjamin Terte, Jacob Billikopf, Rabbi Harry H. Mayer, Edgar J. Stern, Herman Sonken, Phineas Rosenberg, Harry Levin, George L. Goldman, Abe Diamant and Chas. H. Lyon.

YOUNG WOMEN'S HEBREW ASSOCIATION

HE Y. W. H. A. was organized August, 1915. The officers are: Miss Ida E. Joffee, President; Matilda Moskovitz, Vice-President; Rebecca Beckenstein, Recording Secretary; Sadie Berger, Corresponding Secretary; Lillian Heilbrun, Treasurer. Its object was to promote sociability, to give the girls of Kansas City who are employed during the day and so have little leisure, an opportunity to join classes, to do cultural or other work, to provide them with a place where they can meet each other. But especially it was designed to give them the incentive and encouragement to organize themselves as a consciously Jewish group.

Gymnasium classes have been organized, classes in domestic science, French, millinery and choral work, and lectures are given on hygiene and literary subjects.

The organization started with a membership of one hundred and fifty girls. It has fulfilled its intention in so far as the girls have met and have become better acquainted and many close and lasting friendships have been formed. It has given them a definite agreeable meeting place and has disclosed and developed much talent. As soon as an adequate building is supplied, it will function fully and properly.

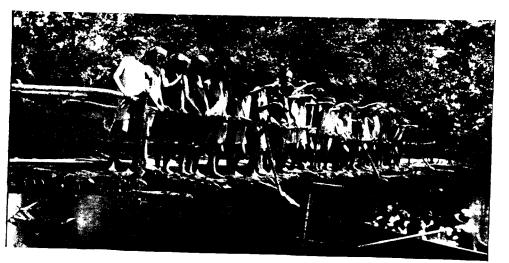


The Tooth Brush Drill

BITTER SWEET CAMP has been in existence for four years; it was established by Miss Fannie Benjamin and is maintained by voluntary subscriptions. It provides outings for boys and girls for two-week periods during the months of July and August.

The camp is situated about ten miles from Kansas City. A lake is on the grounds, which is used for swimming, boating and sports. Permanent buildings have been erected; two screened sleeping rooms with locker rooms adjoining; dining room and kitchen, recreation pavilion and three small buildings used as office and quarters for councillors and camp help. Fifty children can be accommodated at the time.

The girls' camp is under the personal charge of Miss Benjamin, and several young women, all volunteers, assist her. The boys' camp was directed last year by Herman Passamaneck, assisted by four young men. One dollar per week is asked of each child who is able to pay. The actual cost, however, per child, exclusive of ground rent and investment, is a trifle more than \$5.50 per week. One hundred and eighty-six children enjoyed the camp last summer. During the spring of this year and until July 1st, the camp is being used by the Kansas City Teachers' Club for week-ends.



"Bidding Farewell."

CURRENT TOPICS

The Jewish Welfare Board is giving a special course of training for volunteers who wish to do social work among the families of the Jewish men in the Army and Navy. These classes are held on Wednesday mornings in the vestry rooms of Temple Emanu-El. Experimental field work has been arranged for and is included in the course.

When the two weeks' drive of the Federation of Jewish Charities in Brooklyn, N. Y., for a 25,000 membership roll with an annual subscription amount of half a million dollars, came to a formal close, announcement was made that the money thus far raised was about \$300,000—almost two-thirds of the sought objective. There was unanimous concurrence in the resolution to suspend the drive for the present in order that the Jews of the Borough might enter with all their energy into the Liberty Loan Drive.

The drive for membership made by the New York Kehillah last week, resulted in an increase of 3,700.

In mandamus proceedings in the Manhattan Supreme Court of New York, a decision was rendered to the effect that dependent Jewish children, who had become wards of the State were entitled, as a matter of right, to be committed to an institution where they could be instructed in the religion of their parents.

The Young Men's Hebrew Association at 92nd street and Lexington avenue, New York City, will send 100 youths between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one to work on farms in Connecticut for the summer. They will be paid for their labor, receive free board and be taught the elements of farming. So that the city-bred boys may not miss the social life to which they are accustomed, the Y. M. H. A. will erect a community house in the center of the farming district.

VDr. S. Goldwater, superintendent of Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City, and chairman of the Mayor's Committee on Hospital and Medical Facilities, has issued a statement in which he advocates the training of a large number of nurses' aids who will take up the vital work of helping out in our civil and military hospitals during the war, in order to meet the constantly increasing need for nurses in the present emergency. This plan has been successfully adopted in England. Dr. Goldwater does not approve of lowering the requirements of graduate nurses or of shortening the periods of training, as that will, in his opinion, tend to lower the standard of nursing. The training of nurses' aids should be put under proper medical control, with a view of selecting only competent women, those who are best fitted for the care of patients.

St. Joseph reports that as the result of a survey and census, a reorganization of the Jewish philanthropic activities has been accomplished which combined all elements, eliminated all conflicting societies orthodox or reformed, and quadrupled the income to the Central Controlling agency. This supreme central agency is called the Jewish Communal Council-composed of the divisions having charge, respectively, of the Philanthropic, Educational and Social needs of the Community. The Philanthropies branch absorbs the Federated Jewish Charities and about a half dozen independent charitable organizations which go out of existence. The Educational branch has charge of a program of Jewish learning, and has started a Talmud Torah, engaging out of town teachers of the highest caliber. The Social branch is planning the erection of an auditorium with recreational facilities to meet a need of the Community, which has been demonstrated this winter as never before. A Sociology class for members of the Temple Sisterhood and others has been conducted weekly for the past six months and is proving increasingly popular. Above all, a spirit of concord and social enthusiasm exists which was never thought possible, even by the oldest and most optimistic inhabitant.

KANSAS CITY SECTION, COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

THE Kansas City Section of the Council of Jewish Women was organized in 1895, and from that time has been active continuously and uninterruptedly in communal work, both Jewish and non-Jewish. For some years it proceeded independently in work prescribed by the National Council, and later when the Jewish Charities were federated it was one of the constituent organizations. Today it is the only one which has maintained its integrity. It has a membership of four hundred and sixty and is the second largest woman's club in Kansas City. Being a constituent member of the United Jewish Charities, its philanthropies are financed by them and its activities are conducted in close co-operation with them. Its important committees at this time are as follows:

THE INFANT WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

In December, 1916, the Infant Welfare Department was organized, with Mrs. George Landsberg as chairman and twelve members to make up her committee. The work is divided into four departments: Records, Sewing, Social Service and Visiting Nursing. Mrs. Charles Weill is supervisor of the Record Department. A detailed report is kept of each case. Mrs. Herman Levi and Mrs. Samuel Loebenstein are supervisors of the Sewing Department, where complete outfits and miscellaneous articles are made. This department meets monthly. The personal service work of the Social Service Department is done by Mesdames J. Friedman, B. Deutsch, E. Aaron and L. Brown. The entire committee meets monthly. A nurse is

employed, who calls on expectant mothers and mothers of new-born children.

THE BIG SISTER COMMITTEE.

Twenty-two big sisters, with Mrs. W. J. Berkowitz as chairman, have been actively engaged for two years in this activity. They meet twice monthly, one meeing being devoted to study, reading and discussion and one to case reports. In cases needing financial help or medical attention, they co-operate with the United Jewish Charities. They are members of the National Big Brother and Big Sister movement.

THE RED CROSS.

One hundred and fifty-seven women are registered for the Red Cross and meet three days each week at the Jewish Educational Institute. The unit was organized in October, 1917, and since then the following articles have been made: 750 hospital garments, 957 utility bags, 1,000 surgical bags, 3,100 surgical pads; 1,000 surgical pads per week are pledged. Mrs. Myron Loewen is chairman, and Mesdames Morris Block, Ben Spitz, George Lansberg, Fred Deichman; Misses Laura Negbaur and Belle Davidson are supervisors.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Visiting the public schools in which there are Jewish children and keeping in close touch with them is the principal work of the Committee on Education.

The committee looks after all cases that need medical attention or clothing, follows up the cases by personal visits in the homes, and in this super-

vision of neglected children the Council has frequently been instrumental in keeping them from developing into cases which would find their way into the Juvenile Court. The Juvenile Court Committee recognizes the value of this work and declares that the number of cases brought before the court is greatly decreased because of the work of the Committee on Education. Mrs. Henry Cohen is accredited probation officer of the Juvenile Court. Mrs. H. H. Mayer, chairman; Mesdames I. E. Shane, Herman Stern, H. Broud, S. Feldenheimer, Max Goldman, Charles Weill and Miss Fannie Benjamin are members of this committee.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

The Industrial School has en enrollment of one hundred and ninety pupils and an average attendance of one hundred and sixty-five. The children do plain sewing, embroidery and make garments. Mrs. Henry Cohen is chairman and Mrs. Charles Lyon, vice-chairman.

The Eugenics Class is led by Mrs. E. J. Reefer, chairman, and twenty-three members are enrolled.

The officers of the Council are: Mrs. L. S. Lieberman, Honorary President; Mrs. G. D. Cohn, President; Mrs. Sig. Stern, Vice President; Mrs. Jos. Minda, Secretary; Mrs. Sam Feldenheimer, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Sam Latz, Treasurer; Mrs. Jacob Ryder, Auditor.

Directors: Mesdames Henry Cohen, Sieg Harzfeld, Paul Kessel, Irving Hirsch, M. Franklin, Chas. Lyon, Meyer Shane, Herman Stern, A. B. Frenkel, Eugene Reefer, H. H. Mayer, Geo. Landsberg, I. E. Shane, and Miss Fanny Benjamin. Ex-officio: Mesdames E. B. Dreyfus, Wm. J. Berkowitz, Myron Loewen, R. Gelatt.

Nominees for the year beginning May, 1918: Mrs. Meyer Shane, President; Mrs. Jacob A. Ryder, Vicepresident Mrs. S. Feldenheimer, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Jos. Minda, Recording Secretary; Mrs. S. Latz, Treasurer; Mrs. Paul Uhlmann, Auditor

The attention of the Conference is called by I. H. Mendelssohn, of Des Moines, Ia., to what might be an additional activity for those engaged in Jewish Social Service:

The organization in every Jewish community of a students' class for visiting sanitary advisors, called by any other name that might be designated, who would receive a course of instruction under the leadership of some good practicing physician in "first aid," sanitary regulations and general principles of domestic hygiene, whose members would make periodical visits to the homes of our poor and suggest to them ways to keep their yards, rooms, foods and utensils in the best possible sanitary ways and themselves and their children in the most healthful condition.

CENTRAL REGISTRATION BUREAU.

The Central Registration Bureau of Transient Applications for Relief records the following applications for the month of April:

ripin.							
City.	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	
Atlanta	. 0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Baltimore	. 7	1	1	0	0	0	0
Boston	. 1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Buffalo	. 1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chicago	. 3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cincinnati		0	0	0	0	0	0
Dallas	. 3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Des Moines	. 1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Detroit	_	1	1	1	0	1	0
Kansas City		2	0	0	0	0	0
Louisville		0	0	1	0	0	1
New Orleans		0	0	0	0	0	0
New York		1	0	0	0	0	0
Pittsburgh		6	0	Ó	0	0	0
St. Louis		2	0	0	0	0	0
Syracuse	_	3	0	1	0	0	0
Wilmington		3	Ŏ	1	0	0	0
	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Total	.56	20	4	4	0	1	1

PERSONALS



Dr. Solomon Lowenstein, superintendent of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum, who is a member of the Red Cross Commission to Palestine, was born in Philadelphia in 1877. His elementary education was obtained in the public schools of Cleveland. In 1898 he was graudated from the University of Cincinnati, and in 1901 as Rabbi from the Hebrew Union College.

Dr. Lowenstein was formerly headworker of the Jewish Settlement, and Superintendent of the United Hebrew Charities in Cincinnati. In 1905 he was appointed Superintendent of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum in Kansas City, and was vice president of the New York State Conference of Charities for 1916-17.

As a member of the Red Cross Commission, Dr. Lowenstein has the title of Deputy Commissioner, of which there are two besides him. The three deputy commissioners together with the head will administer the entire activity of the commission.

Sixty members compose the commission. The principal members are surgeons, eye specialists, hygienists, physicians and sanitary engineers. The real function of the commission will be to cope with the health problem in Palestine, which has been made so critical by the warfare between the British and Turks.

The engagement of Miss Ella Saslavsky of Cincinnati, to Mr. Morris Lewis, now residing in Chicago, has been announced. Miss Saslavsky is Assistant director of the Jewish Settlement of Cincinnati, and Mr. Lewis, manager of the Self-Support Fund of the Jewish Aid Society in Chicago.

Dr. Lee K. Frankel is chairman of the Committe of Twenty-one appointed by the conference of social welfare and civic organizations, to call upon the Mayor in relation to the inquiry into the health department.

Col. Harry Cutler, national chairman of the Jewish Welfare Board, has received a check for \$1,000 as a contribution to the war work of the board from the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of New York City, through Justice Victor J. Dowling.

Mr. A. S. Weisberger, former secretary of the Scranton Y. M. H. A., who recently enlisted as an army field clerk, is now in France.

Mr. M. A. Stavitsky, Field Secretary of the Council of Y. M. H. and Kindred Associations, is starting on a trip through New England. He will spend the whole month of May in that territory, working with the associations in their membership campaigns, as well as planning with them their summer activities. The Associated Federation office of New England, will be his headquarters during the month of May.

Miss Janet Reis, who has been connected with the Jewish Alliance in St. Louis, Mo., for a number of years, will shortly accept the position of welfare worker at the Grand Leader department store.

Miss Cecelia Rozovsky, who is in charge of issuing work certificates for the St. Louis Board of Education, has recently made her debut in the literary world with a number of social service sketches in "The Survey."

DELEGATES REGISTERED AT THE KANSAS CITY CONFERENCE

Morris Abeles, Leavenworth, Kan. J. C. Badesch, Chicago, Ill. Miss Anna Bercowitz, Boston, Mass. August Berger, St. Joseph, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. M. I. Berger, Chicago, Ill. Dr. Henry Berkowitz, Philadelphia, Pa. Dr. Charles S. Bernheimer, Brooklyn, N. Y. Rabbi and Mrs. Louis Bernstein, St. Joseph, Miss Ruth T. Berolzheimer, Chicago, Ill. Miss Dora Berres, Los Angeles, Cal. Miss Fave Biederman, Des Moines, Iowa. Dr. Max Biesenthal, Chicago, Ill. Mrs. William Binswanger, St. Joseph, Mo. Dr. Boris D. Bogen, Cincinnati, Ohio. Miss Jessie Bogen, Cincinnati, Ohio. Miss Sarah R. Bregstone, Chicago, Ill. Fred Butzel, Detroit, Mich. Louis M. Cahn, Chicago, Ill. Aaron Cohen, Pittsburgh, Pa. Miss Anna Cohen, Dallas, Texas. Charles I. Cooper, Pittsburgh, Pa. Mrs. Ray S. David, Denver, Colo. L. Davidson, Des Moines, Iowa. Miss Ethel Davis, Chicago, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Disman, Salida, Colo. Mrs. Albert H. Ehrlich, St. Joseph, Mo. Mrs. Herman Einstein, St. Joseph, Mo. Jacob R. Fain, New York Čity. Judge Charles N. Feidelson, Savannah, Ga. Miss Sarah C. Fingrutd, Chicago, Ill. Otto G. Finkelstein, Chicago, Ill. Isadore Frank, New York City. J. Frank, Fort Riley, Kan. Dr. Lee K. Frankel, New York City. Miss Malvina Friedman, Cleveland, Ohio. Charles Friend, Milwaukee, Wis. Miss Helen R. Friend, Chicago, Ill. Morris Friend, Lincoln, Neb. Julius Goldman, New Orleans, La. Miss Sadie Goldman, St. Joseph, Mo. Miss Frances L. Goldsmith, Cincinnati, O. Miss Ida Goldstein, Atlanta, Ga. Sidney E. Goldstein, New York City. I. Edwin Goldwasser, New York City. Mrs. Fannie Gordon, Chicago, Ill. C. A. Graves, Chicago, Ill. Bernard Greensfelder, St. Louis, Mo. Miss Fanny Grodinsky, Omaha, Neb. Miss Helen Grodinsky, St. Paul, Minn. Mrs. Marcus Harris, St. Louis, Mo. Miss Fannie Harrison, San Francisco, Cal. Miss Blanche J. Hart, Detroit, Mich. Samuel Hassenbusch, St. Joseph, Mo. Miss Louise Heller, Chicago, Ill. Miss Grace Herbst, Chicago, Ill. Chas. I. Herron, Chicago, Ill. Isadore Hershfield, New York City. Maurice B. Hexter, Cincinnati, Ohio. Dr. and Mrs. Phillip Hillkowitz, Denver, Max Hirsch, Cincinnati, Ohio. Miss Daisy Hirschberg, Milwaukee, Wis. Edward Hochhauser, New York City. Sidney Hollander, Baltimore, Md. Joseph H. Hyman, Columbus, Ohio. Silas Ichenhauser, Cleveland, Ohio. Miss Anna F. Jacobs, Chicago, Ill. Miss Bella S. Jerusalemsky, Chicago, Ill. Mrs. L. Josseeovits, Joplin, Mo.

Isadore Kadis, Toledo, Ohio. Miss Dorothy Kahn, Chicago, Ill. Miss Ella Kahn, Chicago, Ill. Prof. Horace M. Kallen, New York City. Mrs. Simon Kander, Milwaukee, Wis. Miss E. Kaplan, Anglum, Mo. Mrs. Charles Kaufman, Seattle, Wash. Mrs. Hattie Klein, Joplin, Mo. Mrs. Meyer Krakaur, Louisville, Ky. Miss Mary A. Lanser, Chicago, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Leonard, St. Louis, Mo. Thomas Levitt, Des Moines, Iowa. Rabbi Julius A. Leibert, South Bend, Ind. J. B. Lince, Des Moines, Iowa. Joseph Lince, Des Moines, Iowa. I. Irving Lipsitch, San Francisco, Cal. Miss Minnie Low, Chicago, Ill. Miss Harriet B. Lowenstein, New York Louis D. Marks, Cincinnati, Ohio. Alfred Mayer, Chicago, Ill. Henry L. Mayer, San Francisco, Cal. I. N. Mehl, Ft. Worth, Texas. Rev. Metcalf, Bartallsville, Okla. Henry G. Meyer, San Francisco, Cal. Mrs. Jos. S. Meyer, Chicago, Ill. Miss Bess Monsky, Omaha, Neb. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Moskowitz, New York Alex S. Newman, Cleveland, Ohio. Miss Nannie Oppenheimer, Pittsburgh, Pa. Abraham Oseroff, New York City. Mrs. Nettie Pick, Chicago, Ill. Mrs. S. Pisko, Denver, Colo. Sidney E. Pritz, Cincinnati, Ohio. Samuel Rabinovitch, Brooklyn, N. Y. Jacques Rieur, Syracuse, N. Y. Miss Hattie Rosenstock, Chicago, Ill. Leo Rosenthal, Omaha, Neb. I. Rubenstein, Milwaukee, Wis. Mrs. Ray Schwartz, New York City. S. D. Schwartz, Chicago, III. Alexander Segal, Joplin, Mo. Phillip Seman, Chicago, Ill. M. Schloss, Des Moines, Iowa. Sam Schloss, Des Moines, Iowa. Simon L. Simkin, St. Joseph, Mo. Miss Bessie Simon, Chicago, Ill. Dr. C. D. Spivak, Denver, Colo. Miss Gertrude Steuer, Cleveland, Ohio. Mrs. Edward Stransky, Chicago, Ill. Max Switton, Chicago, Ill. Miss Frances Taussig, Chicago, Ill. Sidney Teller, Pittsburgh, Pa. E. Trotzkey, Chicago, Ill. Leo Uhlman, Milwaukee, Wis. Mrs. Ray E. Van Baalen, Pittsburgh, Pa. Leon Volmer, New Orleans, La. Miss Malvyn Wachner, Akron, Ohio. Morris D. Waldman, Boston Mass. Felix M. Warburg, New York City. Mrs. M. Weiner, Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. S. Weinstock, Des Moines, Ia. Miss Etelka Weiss, Baltimore, Md. Miss Bernice Wertheimer, Chicago, Ill. Miss Grace Wiener, San Francisco, Cal. Chas. F. Wray, Rochester, N. Y. Armand Wyle, Rochester, N. Y. Miss Rebecca Yassenoff, Dayton, Ohio. Miss Carrie Younker, Chicago, Ill. Chas. Zunser, New York City.

AT THE CONFERENCE

The presence of Dr. Henry Berkowitz was a real pleasure to the delegates. There is but one regret, and that is because of a social sympathy for his illness, we did not insist upon his addressing us.

Miss Ruth Berolzheimer came all the way from Chicago to deliver a paper, and then was ten minutes late. But Chicago seems capable of getting away with anything.

It is rumored that Fred Butzel prepared his speech of acceptance of the presidency before he come to the conference. Remarkable intuition warned him, perhaps.

Louis M. Cahn doesn't like personalities during discussion. But, after all, "social work is nothing but personality."

Taking into consideration the fact that he "expired" as president, Aaron Cohen was quite lovely and cheerful. Was this the reason?

Mrs. Ray S. David, wide-awake as ever, was so many places at once that she seemed almost uncanny.

Lee K. Frankel was the "star" of the Conference; he spoke well, behaved well, and, what is more important, participated in the business transactions. After all, who cares how one plays golf.

Mrs. Minuie Wiener, of Cincinnati, missed the round-table of nurses, which, sad to relate, failed to materialize. But, since she managed to take in everything else, and even take notes, it is concluded that there were compensations.

Chas. Zunser introduced the resolution for the extradition of deserters, but failed to put over the resolution on Zionism. The individual conversions to the cause that he gained through private debates might be more effective, however, than any such compulsory thinking as this resolution involved.

Etelka Weiss, of Baltimore, may be little, but she hiked twelve miles, missed "Campaign Methods," and lives to tell the tale.

Four successive nights on the train in order to keep his word with the Conference! Warburg is surely a friend worth while.

Morris Waldman succeeded in getting the social workers excited at a midnight round-table, all about something he has started in Boston. But Dr. Bernheimer arose to remark that just because a thing is new it is not necessarily true, and just because it is new is no reason to believe it is altogether new.

Anna Bercowitz, though registered from Boston, is still praising her home town, Baltimore.

Mr. Marcy I. Berger has an interesting system for keeping tab on his subscribers—and judging from its description, it is well worth emulation.

I. Edwin Goldwasser enjoyed at the Conference the opportunity of giving to the Social Workers a few lessons. After all, once a teacher, always a teacher.

The hospitality of Kansas City and the cordial reception tendered the delegates will ever linger in the memory of those who attended the Conference. The delightful auto rides, the delicious luncheons and last, but not least, the one hundred and thirty-seven new Kansas City subscribers to Jewish Charities all give ample evidence, if more evidence is needed, of the high spirit of social service that permeates the Jewish community of the "Heart of the West."

The following Committee on Resolutions was appointed at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Jewish Charities on Monday afternoon: Mrs. S. Pisko, Denver, Chairman; Sidney A. Teller, Pittsburgh; Louis M. Cahn, Chicago; Julius Goldman, New Orleans, Dora Berres, Los Angeles.

Miss Minnie Low is having her finger in every progressive movement in the Conference. And now she admits that Chicago is no longer astonished at New York—it had all those things long ago.

I. Irving Lipsitch, of San Francisco, was openly congratulated upon keeping upon such good terms with Los Angeles. The latter city, however, should be equally congratulated.

And now that Sidney Pritz is the Treasurer of the Conference, we can expect that the "delinquents" will be ferociously pursued.

Harriet Lowenstein declares she was thrilled by her visit to the Conference. And those who had the opportunity to meet her there can say that they were, too—by the distinctly metropolitan atmosphere that she created.

Frances Goldsmith was noticeable everywhere, so that the delegates were made to feel that there was some one representing the Field Bureau. Dr. Bogen was too busy entertaining the delegates to have any time to do anything for the Conference.

The Conference on Sunday evening tendered to Felix Warburg a tribute that it has offered to but one other man, Julius Rosenwald. As he arose to address the meeting, the entire assemblage arose also, as a mark of respect and love to the great philanthropist.

Mr. Max Senior:

The National Conference of Jewish Charities unanimously instructed me to express to you its sincere regret that its first president was unable to be present at its twentieth birthday conference. We hope that your indisposition will soon be a thing of the past and that the coming year we will have the benefit of your advice and support.

(Signed) AARON COHEN.

This was the telegram sent on opening night as the unanimous expression of the Conference.

Mr. Sam Schloss, delegate from Des Moines, Iowa, is being congratulated upon his engagement to Miss Gertrude Benjamin, a niece of Alfred Benjamin, a beloved host of the Conference.

Louis Marks is rapidly becoming an oldtimer at the Conference, being recognized almost universally: another evidence of Cincinnati's up-and-comingness.

Blanche Hart firmly denies having attended the first meeting of the Conference at Chicago, whereas Mrs. Pisko insists that even at that time she was the Conference.

Samuel Kaufman, of Indianapolis, seemed to be in all places at once, and while far from loquacious himself, appears to have heard a great deal about what other folks are, or are not, doing. This must have been reassuring, to say the least.

In appreciation of the cordial hospitality extended to the delegates by the Kansas. City Community, the following resolution was passed by the Conference:

"Whereas, The Jewish Community of Kansas City has, by its hospitality and by its care for our comfort and needs, made our stay in their city so pleasant,

"Therefore, Be it resolved, That we, the delegates of the National Conference of Jewish Charities in conference assembled, do hereby express our appreciation of the generous hospitality shown by the Jewry of Kansas City and do hereby recognize the services, kindness and courtesies rendered by the various individuals and organizations who made our visit so enjoyable.

ATTENTION.

The public is warned against the attempt by some individual using the name of the Conference to circulate unreliable and false information concerning the Tuberculosis Sanatoria and the patients in Denver.

You are cautioned not to heed any of these circulars, as they are simply and entirely an attempt to gain publicity and secure funds under false pretenses.

SURPRISE LAKE WINTER CAMP FOR ANEMIC BOYS

Leon E. Katzenstein, New York City

It is many years since the Educational Alliance and the Young Men's Hebrew Association established camps for working boys. About ten years ago the two organizations united and purchased a picturesque estate of six hundred acres, including a beautiful little lake. Numerous buildings were erected until the plant represents, with equipment, an investment of about \$80,000. It has become so large an enterprise that the two organizations created a committee for its management and it is now operated as the Surprise Lake Camp.

Until January, 1917, this splendid place was operated only during the months of July and August, though during this brief period almost two thousand boys and young men were cared for. It had for years seemed to the committee that greater use could be made of these unusual facilities, but not until January of 1917 was a practical effort made. At that time about thirty boys were secured through the Department of Health and the Outdoor Relief Departments of certain hospitals. Some of these boys were refused working papers because they were anemic or under-sized. Others were taken from classrooms by visiting nurses for the same reason. Those sent by the hospitals were of a similar type discovered by the nurses usually when visiting other members of the family.

These boys were taken to camp and cared for absolutely without cost. Even their railroad fare and a considerable part of their clothing being furnished. As they gained in weight and strength some were returned to their homes to make room for others, until by June some fifty had been cared for.

The Department of Education of the City of New York, furnished a teacher so that the boys were able to keep up with their grade work, though the classes continued for less than three hours a day. In the class-room, windows were always wide open, and in their dormitory also until just before getting up time, when they were closed and the steam turned on so that they could dress in comfort. A little work was required of the boys, but no scrubbing or

other severe efforts. They played out of doors in all kinds of weather, coasting and skating during the winter and rambling in the woods. Early in May they began to sleep in tents and were taught to row and were permitted to fish and otherwise get full enjoyment of the Springtime.

When these boys were returned to their homes on June 10, some of them showed a gain in weight of as much as twenty pounds and an increase in height of three inches. Unfortunately, as there was no proper follow up of these boys during the summer, a number of them through the indifference of their parents were obliged to perform tasks beyond their strength of years, resulting in a loss of all they had gained at the camp. The success of the work, however, was so great that the camp was opened again for such boys in October 1917 with accommodations for sixty, and it is expected by June that not less than one hundred will have been cared for. The City of New York has provided a second teacher and of course there is a physician and nurse, and all necessary employees.

During the scason the boys have been taught practical work by carpenters and are now giving from one to two hours a day to work on buildings being erected for camp use. Of course there is no intention of exploiting the boys, but this occupation serves to give additional zest to the lives they are leading.

In general the boys are very obedient, and there is an absolute absence of institutional atmosphere or regulations. They are eager to perform the tasks assigned them and appreciate the opportunity for self-government which is permitted them.

Many pitiful cases have been brought to our attention. It has not been infrequent for boys to say after partaking of their first meal, "My, this is the first good meal I ever had in my life." Sleeping garments, sheets and pillow cases were unknown to many of them.

Our co-operation with the various organizations sending boys has enabled us to aid them in building up families. Very frequently we keep the boys for some time after they are in sound condition, because of the poverty of their homes. Surprise Lake Camp is performing an important function for social betterment. These boys cannot help carrying into their homes better ideas of housing, cleanliness and proper food.

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Vol. IX

Cincinnati, O., June, 1918

No. 2

Conference Making

Welfare Work in the Camps

The Hadassah Medical Unit

